



## *The Public Service Commission State of South Carolina*

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Clerk's Office  
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February 11, 2019

Hamilton Knox

~~Simpsonville, SC 29388~~

Dear Mr. Knox:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your Letter of Protest/Comments to the Public Service Commission of South Carolina. Your Letter of Protest/Comments will be placed in the Protest File of the Docket listed below and on the Commission's Website at [www.psc.sc.gov](http://www.psc.sc.gov).

- Docket No. 2018-319-E - Application of Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC for Adjustments in Electric Rate Schedules and Tariffs and Request for an Accounting Order

A Protestant is an individual objecting on the ground of private or public interest to the approval of an Application, Petition, Motion or other matters which the Commission may have under consideration. A Protestant may offer sworn testimony but cannot cross-examine witnesses offered by other parties.

According to the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, filing a Protest does not make you a Party of Record. A Protestant desiring to become an Intervenor (i.e., a Party of Record) in a proceeding before the Commission may file a Petition for Intervention within the time prescribed by the Commission.

You can follow this Docket and other daily filings made at the Commission by subscribing to the Commission's Email Subscriptions at this link: <https://dms.psc.sc.gov/Web/Email>;

If we may be of further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Clerk's Office

2018-319-E  
281932

Simpsonville, SC 29680

South Carolina Public Service Commission  
101 Executive Center Drive, #100  
Columbia, SC 29210

Re: Duke Energy's Facility Fee Increase Request

Dear Friends:

I read in today's Greenville News about Duke Energy's dramatic facility fee increase request.

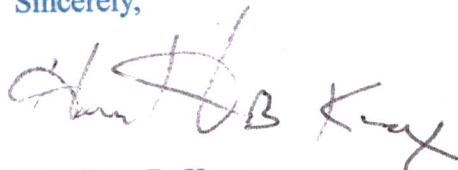
This request should be denied by the Public Service Commission for several reasons:

1. An increase of more than 300% in the facility fee paid by residential customers will reward those who use a lot of power at the expense of those who use less. This is bad energy policy because it will not encourage energy conservation, but will have the opposite effect. At a time of climate change crisis, this is inexcusable.
2. Such an increase will penalize the poor, who generally live in smaller homes or apartments that require less power, and reward the wealthy who mostly live in large homes with energy-hungry amenities like swimming pools and hot tubs. Many of the poor already struggle to pay their power bill.
3. It will discourage those who might consider installing solar panels by reducing or eliminating any net savings that would result.
4. It will change the rules of the game for all those who have already installed solar panels, reducing or eliminating the net savings they enjoy as a reward for investing in clean energy.

In summary, allowing a dramatic increase in the facility fee would be bad energy policy, bad social policy, bad environmental policy, bad economic policy, and, overall, bad public policy.

If Duke legitimately needs more money, any increase in what customers pay should be mostly, if not altogether, in the per kilowatt hour rate. Such an increase, if needed, will encourage energy conservation. Appropriately, its impact will be greatest for those who use the most power.

Sincerely,



Hamilton B. Knox

RECEIVED

FEB 11 2019

PSC SC  
CLERK'S OFFICE